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FLOOR DEBATE

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and the weed superintendent was under the administration of the county board of supervisors.

SENATOR PREISTER: So you had even more direct responsibility in that instance. Is that correct?

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Yes, that's very true.

SENATOR PREISTER: Okay. Then, having said that, could you reiterate? Because I thought you were saying that maybe this is a program whose time has come and maybe gone; that maybe we need to look at the structure as part of all of the restructuring and the reassessment of what we do in state government. But I'm not sure I heard and I don't want to put words in your mouth, so if you could tell me again what you were saying.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Maybe...maybe I discussed it in length and maybe I didn't, but in my observation and in our local county, since the weed board was eliminated and we just had the highway...the highway...not the highway, the county weed superintendent there and under the direction of the county board of supervisors, we felt that it would be the best, in the best interest of the county and the least expensive route to go that the highway superintendent would also be the weed administrator. The highway has...the highway superintendent and the highway department has enough help that in the fall or whenever it is needed that they could do the spraying of the roadsides wherever it is needed, because those highway workers do travel the roads a lot and they know where the problems are, know where the trees are that need to be sprayed. So...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: ...I think that could be taken care of through the board of supervisors and the highway department.

SENATOR PREISTER: Okay. I appreciate your insight and your personal experience and you restating what you had stated earlier. Thank you, Senator.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you.